

# SATURDAY GAZETTE, AUGUST 8

were dragged on board the cobble. Half an hour later, and they were safe indeed, safe at home under the shelter of the cottage roof; and as Aline clung to her sister, weeping tears of joy, there was not one of them who did not give humble thanks to the Providence that had preserved them from the jaws of death.

Frank Darrell's tale was briefly told, and the reason of his long silence satisfactorily given. The ship in which he was First Officer, the *Pride of the Ocean*, had run aground; on the coast of China, on a reef which was not noted in the newest of the Admiralty charts, and, what was worse, in this he pless condition she was boarded by pirates, who pillaged the cargo and murdered the Captain and the greater number of the crew. From this massacre the capricious lenity of the captors had excluded some of the ship's company, of which fortunate few Frank was one. He had been for months a captive among the pirates, well fed and hard worked when mates, went well with these pig-tailed sea-robbbers, half starved and threatened with death when the gang returned empty handed to their haunt among the islets of the coast. Then came an escape, under circumstances of great hardship and peril, and which was only effected through Darrell's courage and address, to which also was due the subsequent defeat of the pirates by a British naval force, and the recovery of much valuable property belonging to European merchants.

The result of all this was that when Frank Darrell returned home, carrying with him the good-will and good word of the authorities and mercantile community at Hong Kong, as well as a comfortable sum, which had been awarded as his share of the salvage, a fresh piece of good luck awaited him. The wealthy ship-owners, Lockwood & Page, to whom the *Pride of the Ocean* had belonged, immediately appointed the young man to the command of a fine new vessel, the *Canopus*, just off the stocks, and fitting for her first voyage to Shanghai. The first infidelity of Frank Darrell, when his prospects thus brightened, had been to seek out Margaret, and claim the fulfillment of her promise, given in happier times, while the old parsonage in which she had been born was yet her home, to be his wife. But there was a new view now, to preach from Mr. Gray's pulpit and inhabit Mr. Gray's house, and it was not without much inquiry and some difficulty that the young sailor tracked Margaret and her sister to their actual place of residence, and arrived, as has been seen, having worked wonders for the invalid, and though her heart, in still frail, she suffers less, and her willful, wayward moods of petulance have passed away, as by a charm, ever since that memorable night when Margaret last crossed the Loomis pamphlet that we did not care to discuss the merits or demerits of its facts and statements; nor did it seem very necessary, as the pamphlet itself was in everybody's hands, and intelligent citizens would, of course, judge for themselves.

Mr. Loomis forgets that government officers act under law, and under oath, and with legal investigation of facts and charges, on sworn proof and undoubted testimony. He would regard it very singular and unjustifiable for an officer to call a man a thief, a liar, or a swindler without positive knowledge and corroborative evidence and legal conviction.

How then can it be deemed less than outrageous for one private citizen to be arraigned, maligned, tried, convicted, and punished by another citizen who arbitrarily assumes the office of prosecutor, jury and judge? How can it be doubted that, where such liberty is practiced, society will be demoralized and our children's tastes and habits become perverted? Who then could insure the peace of our homes and guarantee the reputation of honest citizens against envy and malice?

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We certainly must admit that some of the statements in Mr. Loomis' pamphlet and notably that of Mr. Crane, from the books of the Mountclair Railway, if verified, are damaging to Mr. Pratt's character for probity. If, as we should all hope, he can clear up his integrity in this matter, it is certainly incumbent on him to do it, and we think he owes it to himself and to his family, and to the community that has confided in him, to do it at once and make it conspicuously manifest and full.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mr. H. M. Stanley has been commissioned by the New York *Herald* and London *Telegraph* jointly to go to Africa and complete Livingstone's work of exploration.

It is reported that rattlesnakes are killing horses in Lapeyre county, Ind.

The Government Armory at Springfield is full of business and it is said will employ three or four hundred men all summer. What does it mean?

It is proposed to coin a twenty-cent piece in silver at the mint for circulation.

San Francisco has gone into the sardine business. A very large packing house has been erected, and as the fish are abundant all along the Pacific coast from April to August, it is anticipated that a very large business will be done.

At Morristown, N. J., hacks are always waiting at the depot on the arrival of trains, and convey passengers to any part of the city for ten cents.

Gen. Sheridan proposes to make a radical change in the management of Indian affairs. Heretofore an Indian reservation has been a sacred inclosure so far as the whites were concerned. An Indian raiding party was safe when inside the line. Now the predators are to be pursued until caught, wherever that may happen to find them.

California is about to call for one-third more vessels than usual this year, to carry to market her surplus wheat. What an empire that country is!

The Union Cheese Factory of North Jefferson, Ohio, keeps five hundred cows, and is receiving ten thousand pounds of milk, and making twenty cheeses per day, which will average thirty-eight pounds each.

The Chicago Tribune says that "the prospect for the new crops is everywhere good, both for quantity and quality. Wheat, especially, has been sown in immense breadths, and the harvest work is in full swing."

A speaker at a church extension meeting in New York stated that there is annually spent there \$3,000,000 for religious objects connected with 470 churches and missions, while \$7,000,000 are spent in libraries, \$5,000,000 on newspapers, and \$50,000,000 in the 8,400 drinking places.

There appeared last week in the obituary columns of the Public Ledger notice of the deaths of twenty persons—five men and fifteen women—who had lived to or beyond the advanced age of eighty years.

Professor Canton has recently discovered another mineral spring at Sheephead Bay, L. I. This one is strongly charged with sulphur and iron, and the water, the Professor avers, is very valuable for its medicinal properties. The Professor thinks the whole region is filled with mineral springs

## Saturday Gazette.

**Bloomfield and Montclair, N. J.**  
W. P. LYON, Editor and Proprietor.  
CHAS. M. DAVIS, Associate Editor.

OUR PUBLICATION OFFICE is next door to the Post Office in Bloomfield.

### MASON LOOMIS.

We freely accorded to citizen Loomis all the space he deserved in our last issue to reply to our article of the previous week. Instead of replying to our criticism however, his letter is chiefly occupied with a reiteration of some of his pamphlet matters, without shedding any new light upon them.

We were sorry that he took the opportunity to make another lunge at his imagined adversary, whom he charges with making "a cold, cruel, heartless and false attack upon him personally." Mr. Loomis does not help his position by such personal invective.

In the conclusion of his letter, he notices a deprecatory sentence of our article, as to the disastrous effect upon society and upon the minds and hearts of our youth, of his method of resorting a grievance, whether real or supposed, by a sailing character, ascribing vile motives and calling opprobrious names. He regards this a "new doctrine" and with best intentions, no doubt, justifies his position in this controversy by its conceived analogy to the functions and duty of government officers, who are expected to ferret out and punish crime.

Mr. Loomis forgets that government officers act under law, and under oath, and with legal investigation of facts and charges, on sworn proof and undoubted testimony. He would regard it very singular and unjustifiable for an officer to call a man a thief, a liar, or a swindler without positive knowledge and corroborative evidence and legal conviction.

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